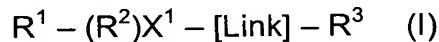


Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1. (Currently Amended) An agrochemical composition which includes an agrochemically active compound and a compound of the formula (I):



where

R^1 is polyhydroxy hydrocarbyl;

R^2 is H or hydrocarbyl, or is a group as defined for R^1 ;

X^1 is N; $N^+>O^-$; N^+R^{4-} where: where R^{4-} is C_1 to C_6 hydrocarbyl carrying an anionic substituent, particularly CH_2-COO^- ; or $N+R^5An^- N^+R^5An^-$ where: where R^5 is a C_1 to C_{20} hydrocarbyl;hydrocarbyl and An^- is a charge balancing anion;

Link is a linking group of the formula: $-CH_2 - CHOH - X^2-$

where X^2 is

a direct bond; $-CH_2 - O-$; $-CH_2 - N(R^6)-$; $-CH_2 - (OA)_p - O-$; or $CH_2 - (OA)_p - N(R^7)$;

where

OA is an oxyalkylene residue;

p is from 1 to 100;

R^6 is H; C_2 to C_8 hydrocarbyl; or

a group $R^1 - (R^2)X^1 - CH_2 - CHOH - CH_2-$ where R^1 , R^2 and X^1 are as defined above; and

R^7 is H; C_1 to C_8 hydrocarbyl;

or a group $R^1 - (R^2)X^1 - CH_2 - CHOH - CH_2 - (OA)_p -$ where R^1 , R^2 , X^1 , OA and p are as defined above; and

R^3 is hydrocarbyl C_6-C_{30} hydrocarbyl.

2. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R¹ is a polyhydroxy alkyl group having a linear C₄ to C₇ chain and at least three hydroxyl groups directly bonded to chain carbon atoms.
3. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein R¹ is a group of the formula:
-CH₂ - (CHOH)₄ - CH₂OH.
4. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R² is an alkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl group, R⁵ is an alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl or aralkyl, An⁻ is an alkali metal or ammonium ion, R⁶ and R⁷ are each independently alkyl or alkenyl groups and R³ is a C₁₀ to C₃₀ alkyl, alkenyl, alkaryl, aryl or aralkyl group.
5. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the oxyalkylene group(s) OA is (are) oxyethylene, oxypropylene or mixtures of oxyethylene and oxypropylene groups and p is from 1 to 50.
6. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein Link is a group of one of the formulae: -CH₂ - CHOH - CH₂ - O-; -CH₂ - CHOH - CH₂ - (OA)_p-O-; -CH₂ - CHOH - CH₂ - N(R⁶)-; or -CH₂ - CHOH - CH₂ - (OA)_p-N(R⁷)-; where OA, p, R⁶ and R⁷ are as defined in claim 1.
7. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the agrochemically active compound comprises one or more plant growth regulators, herbicides, and/or pesticides.
8. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 7, wherein the agrochemically active compound comprises at least one water soluble herbicide.

9. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 8, wherein the water soluble herbicide comprises at least one phosphonomethyl glycine, phosphinyl amino acid, and/or a bipyridinium compound.

10. (Currently Amended) A compound of the general formula (IIa): $R^1 - (R^2)X^1 - [Link^1] - R^3$ where

R^1 is polyhydroxy hydrocarbyl;

R^2 is H or hydrocarbyl, or is a group as defined for R^1 ;

R^3 is hydrocarbyl C₆-C₃₀ hydrocarbyl;

X^1 is N; N⁺->O⁻; N⁺R⁴⁻ where R⁴⁻ is C₁ to C₆ hydrocarbyl carrying an anionic substituent; or N⁺R⁵An⁻ where R⁵ is a C₁ to C₂₀ hydrocarbyl and An⁻ is a charge balancing anion;

and Link¹ is a linking group of one of the formulae:

-CH₂ - CHOH - CH₂ - (OA)_p-O-; -CH₂ - CHOH - CH₂ - N(R⁶)-; or

-CH₂ - CHOH - CH₂-- (OA)_p - N(R⁷)-;

where

OA is an oxyalkylene residue;

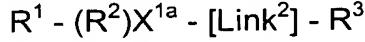
p is from 1 to 100;

R^6 is H; C₂ to C₈ hydrocarbyl; or a group $R^1 - (R^2)X^1 - CH_2 - CHOH - CH_2 -$ where R^1 , R^2 and X^1 are as defined above; and

R^7 is H; C₁ to C₈ hydrocarbyl; or

a group $R^1 - (R^2)X^1 - CH_2 - CHOH - CH_2 - (OA)_p -$ where R^1 , R^2 , X^1 , OA and p are as defined above.

11. (Currently Amended) A compound of the general formula (IIb):



where

R^1 is polyhydroxy hydrocarbyl;

R^2 is H or hydrocarbyl, or is a group as defined for R^1 ;

R^3 is hydrocarbyl;

X^{1a} is N⁺->O⁻, N⁺R⁴⁻ or R⁵An⁻ N⁺R⁵An⁻ where:

R^4 is C_1 to C_6 hydrocarbyl carrying an anionic substituent, particularly $-CH_2-$
 COO^- ; or $N+R^5An^-$ where:

R^5 is a C_1 to C_{20} hydrocarbyl; and

An^- is a charge balancing anion;

and Link² is a linking group of one of the formulae: $-CH_2-CHOH-CH_2-O-$;

$-CH_2-CHOH-CH_2-(OA)_p-O-$; $-CH_2-CHOH-CH_2-N(R^6)-$; or

$-CH_2-CHOH-CH_2-(OA)_p-N(R^7)-$;

where

OA is an oxyalkylene residue;

p is from 1 to 100;

R^6 is H; C_2 to C_8 hydrocarbyl; or a group $R^1-(R^2)X^1-CH_2-CHOH-CH_2-$
where R^1 , R^2 and X^1 are as defined above; and

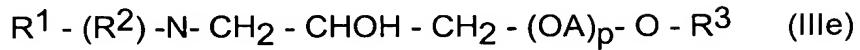
R^7 is H; C_1 to C_8 hydrocarbyl; or

a group $R^1-(R^2)X^1-CH_2-CHOH-CH_2-(OA)_p-$ where R^1 , R^2 , X^1 , OA
 R^1 , R^2 , OA and p are as defined above; and

where X^1 is N; $N^+>O^-$; N^+R^4- where R^4 is C_1 to C_6 hydrocarbyl carrying an
anionic substituent; or $N^+R^5An^-$ where R^5 is a C_1 to C_{20} hydrocarbyl and
 An^- is a charge balancing anion.

12. (Original) A method of treating vegetation by applying to plants and/or soil a composition as claimed in claim 1.
13. (Previously presented) A method of killing or inhibiting vegetation comprising applying the agrochemical composition of claim 1, wherein said agrochemically active compound comprises at least one growth regulator and/or herbicide.
14. (Previously presented) A method of killing or plant pests comprising applying the agrochemical composition of claim 1, wherein said agrochemically active compound comprises at least one pesticide.

15. (Previously presented) A compound of the formula (IIIe):



where

R^1 is polyhydroxy hydrocarbyl;

R^2 is H or hydrocarbyl, or is a group as defined for R^1 ;

OA is an oxyalkylene residue;

p is from 1 to 100; and

R^3 is C_6 to C_{30} hydrocarbyl.

16. (Previously presented) The compound of claim 15 wherein:

R^1 is a polyhydroxy alkyl group having a linear C_4 to C_7 chain and at least three hydroxyl groups directly bonded to chain carbon atoms; or

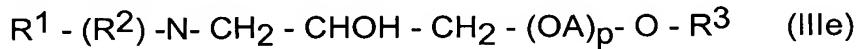
R^2 is an alkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl group, and R^3 is a C_{10} to C_{30} alkyl, alkenyl, alkaryl, aryl or aralkyl group; or

OA is(are) oxyethylene, oxypropylene or mixtures of oxyethylene and oxypropylene groups; or

p is from 1 to 50.

17. (Previously presented) The Compound of claim 16 wherein R^1 is a group of the formula: $- CH_2 - (CHOH)_4 - CH_2OH$.

18. (Previously presented) An agrochemical composition which includes an agrochemically active compound and a compound of the formula (IIIe):



where

R^1 is polyhydroxy hydrocarbyl;

R^2 is H or hydrocarbyl, or is a group as defined for R^1 ;

OA is an oxyalkylene residue;

p is from 1 to 100; and

R³ is C₆ to C₃₀ hydrocarbyl.

19. (Previously presented) The agrochemical composition of claim 18 wherein:
 - R¹ is a polyhydroxy alkyl group having a linear C₄ to C₇ chain and at least three hydroxyl groups directly bonded to chain carbon atoms; or
 - R² is an alkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl group, and R³ is a C₁₀ to C₃₀ alkyl, alkenyl, alkaryl, aryl or aralkyl group or
 - OA is(are) oxyethylene, oxypropylene or mixtures of oxyethylene and oxypropylene groups; or
 - p is from 1 to 50.
20. (Previously presented) The agrochemical composition of claim 19 wherein R¹ is a group of the formula: - CH₂ - (CHOH)₄ - CH₂OH.
21. (Previously presented) The agrochemical composition of claim 18 wherein the agrochemically active compound is one or more plant growth regulators, herbicides, and/or pesticides.
22. (Previously presented) The agrochemical composition of claim 21 wherein the agrochemically active compound is or includes at least one water soluble herbicide.
23. (Previously presented) The agrochemical composition of claim 22 wherein the water soluble herbicide comprises at least one phosphonomethyl glycine, phosphinyl amino acid, and/or bipyridinium compound.
24. (Previously presented) A method of treating vegetation by applying to plants and/or soil the agrochemical composition of claim 18.

25. (Previously presented) The agrochemical composition of claim 18 wherein said agrochemically active compound includes one or more growth regulators and/or herbicides.
26. (Previously presented) A method of killing or inhibiting vegetation by applying the agrochemical composition of claim 25.
27. (Previously presented) The agrochemical composition of claim 18 wherein said agrochemically active compound includes at least one pesticide selected from insecticides, fungicides, acaricides, nematocides, miticides, rodenticides, bactericides, molluscicides or bird repellants.
28. (Previously presented) A method of killing plant pests by applying the agrochemical composition of claim 27 to a plant.
29. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 9 wherein said herbicide is selected from Glyphosate, Sulfosate, Glufosinate or Paraquat.